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March 12, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

Re: Ex Parte in CC Docket Nos: 00-256, 96-45, 98-77, and 98-166

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, March 11, 2003, David Bartlett of ALLTEL Communications, Inc., Robert DeBroux of TDS Telecommunications Corporation, and I (collectively referred to as the "Company Representatives") met with Matthew Brill, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Abernathy.

The subject of our discussion was a proposal developed by the Company Representatives regarding the alternative regulatory structure contemplated by the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the above-referenced proceedings. In this regard the Company Representatives discussed the possibility of utilizing the Commission's Part 61.39 rules as a basis to provide an additional tariff filing option for rate of return carriers without increasing any administrative or regulatory burdens on those small companies that currently qualify to utilize the Part 61.39 rules.

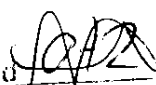
The Company representatives explained how the proposal would function and how benefits would result for all parties: end user customers, interexchange carriers, and the non-price cap telephone companies that are not currently qualified to utilize the Part 61.39 rules. The attached documents were provided and referred to in the course of our discussion.

Please direct any questions regarding this to me at (202)296-9055

Stephen . Kraskin

Cc: Matthew Brill, Esq.

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00-256
SEE DOCKET NO. FOR THE DOCUMENT.